

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Thursday, September 20, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

September 20, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MICHAEL K. SIMPSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Dr. Harold Bales, District Superintendent, United Methodist Church, Salisbury, North Carolina, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, when we lift our eyes to spacious skies, we know that You are there.

When as if two lightning bolts slice hotly through the high places and plunge us by the thousands into molten, crushing caverns, we know that You are there.

When heroic spirits, roused to action, steer a chariot meant for evil to the right and make a crater of courage in the rich soil of freedom, we know that You are planted there as if a seed, the seed of life.

When wild barbarians spur their murderous winged mount into the encampment of those who serve when called to liberating strife, we know that You are there.

And when representative forces of freedom meet to do their civilizing work, grant, O God, not only Your blessing on their work but grant Your presence there.

So please, God, bless this House and those within it, that through its actions and by Your presence here, justice, mercy, love, and peace may come to reign in every house upon this earth. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr.

McNULTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McNULTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 231. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution permitting the Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate to designate another member of the Committee to serve on the Joint Committee on Printing in place of the Chairman.

S. Con. Res. 68. Concurrent resolution providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair desires to announce that the practice of reserving seats prior to the Joint Session by placard will not be allowed.

Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only, following the security sweep of the Chamber.

WELCOMING DR. HAROLD BALES, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT, UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

(Mrs. MYRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is a true honor for me to have Dr. Harold Bales here to offer prayer to us at this most difficult time in our Nation's history.

Dr. Bales and his wife, Judy, have been friends of my husband, Ed, and myself for over 20 years, as well as pastor. Judy and their daughter, Suzannah, are here with him today.

He has served in many capacities in the Methodist Church, from being a

pastor to organizing the World's Fair in Knoxville to administrative positions; and many years ago in Charlotte, he was among the first to recognize our growing problem with homeless people. And our church, First United Methodist, was among the first to start a program uptown to help. He was also instrumental in building our homeless shelter.

When tornados raked through North and South Carolina in 1986, Harold was one of the first responders, not only with spiritual leadership, but also in a relief and recovery effort in the basement of First Methodist, over a hundred miles away.

Recently he has battled cancer, but that has not stopped him from caring and working for others. Harold relieves many tense situations with his wonderful sense of humor. He always makes everyone feel comfortable, and he has always got a real story to tell that is funny as the dickens.

He also writes poetry. One of his masterpieces is called Ode to Okra. Yes, that is the vegetable. Harold loves okra.

As an instrument of reconciliation, Harold has repeatedly brought together people of diverse beliefs and different factions to celebrate their similarities in honor of God. His surgeon, who coincidentally was also my surgeon for breast cancer, recently shared something with me. She has become a dear friend, also.

Dr. Teresa Flippo told me that he always had an aura of calm about him. Whenever he would come in and when she would go in to see him, he would end up ministering to her and really being concerned about all the stresses that she underwent in her profession, had far more concern for her than he did for his own condition.

That is Dr. Bales, a true servant of God.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair will entertain 10 one-minute speeches per side.

HELPING CHILDREN AFFECTED BY SEPTEMBER 11 TERRORISM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, in scenes worse than a horror movie,